

Department of Education



"Distance Education Demonstration Program"

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Background

- 1992 HEA Fraud and Abuse Amendments
 - Correspondence schools
 - Quality
 - Program length
 - Accrediting agency recognition
- Aid requirements structured around traditional concepts of higher education

1998 Higher Education Amendments



- Distance Education Demonstration Program
 - Clear trend toward Distance Education
 - Continued concern about possibilities for fraud and abuse
 - | Requires strict monitoring
 - | Administrative capability criterion



Statutory Purposes of Program

- Test quality and viability
- Increase access
- Help determine:
 - Most effective means of delivering Distance Education
 - Statutory and regulatory changes needed
 - Appropriate level of student assistance



Program Structure

- 15 Participants
- Additional 35 3rd Year
- Statutory waivers
 - 50% Rules
 - 30week academic year
- Regulatory waivers – general provisions



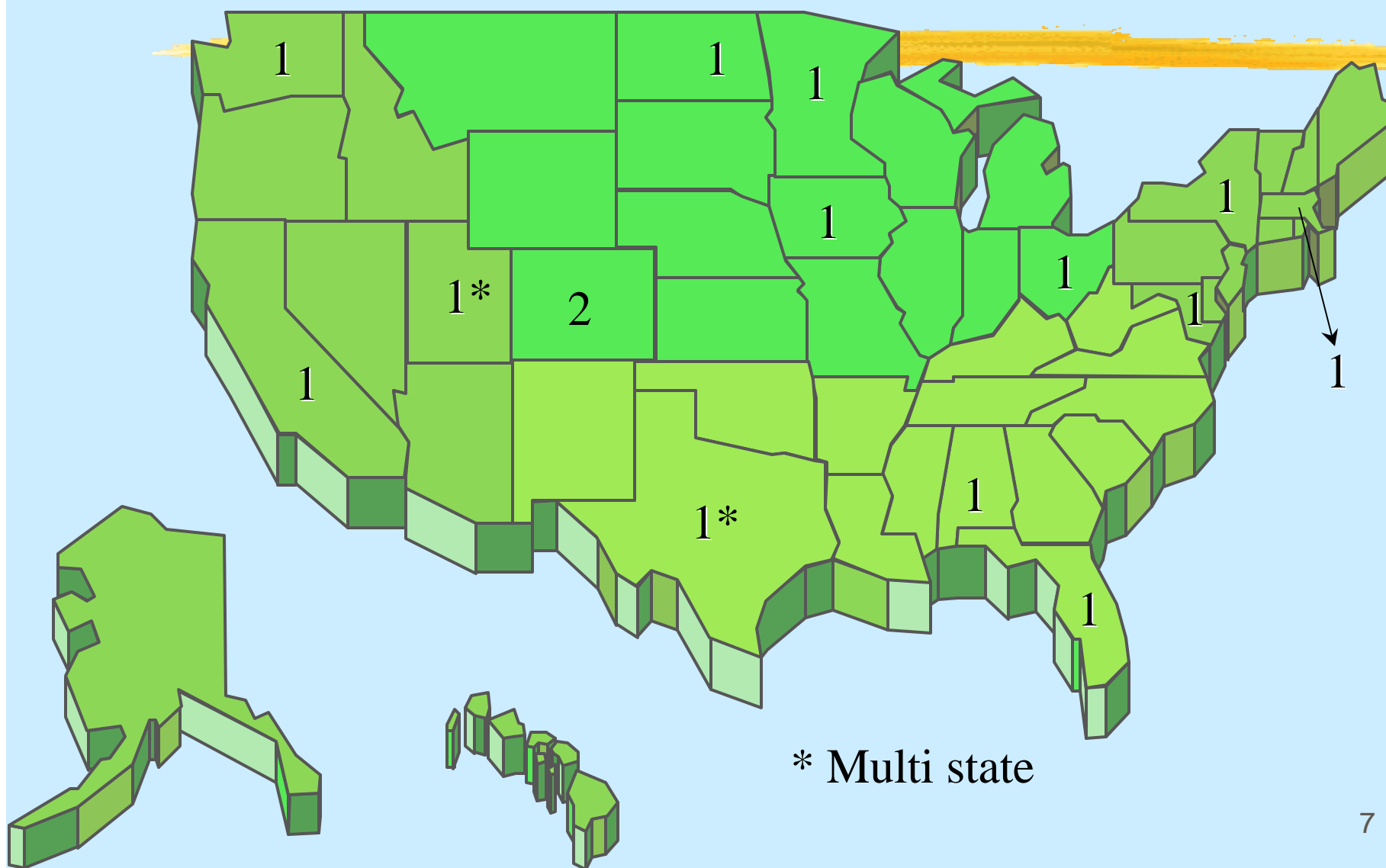
Participants

- 9 single institutions
- 6 consortia
- 99 institutions total

- 5 public
- 5 private
- 2 public and private
- 3 proprietary



Distribution of Participants by State



Some Ideas Participants are Testing



- BA/BS completion programs
- Course sharing
- Increasing capacity to meet student needs
- Enriching on-campus offerings with distance education courses
- New methods of enrollment tracking
- Excluding living expenses from the calculation of cost of attendance
- Multiple Disbursements/Just in Time Delivery



List of Waivers

■ Set 1 50% Rules

- Courses
- Students
- Telecommunications student/correspondence student

■ Set 2 Time Requirements

- 30 week academic year
- Definition of a week of instruction



List of Waivers (cont.)

- Set 3 - Correspondence student/halftime only
- Additional waivers for Western Governors University

Schedule for 2001 Application Cycle



- Federal Register Notice – September 15
- Technical Assistance Workshops (proposed)
 - | Washington, DC - October 18 (firm)
 - | Albuquerque, NM (WCET) - November 1 (firm)
 - | Chicago, IL - November 8 or 9
 - | Seattle, WA - November 28 or 29
- Technical Assistance to Potential Applicants --
On-going
- Application Due Date – February 15

Schedule for 2001 Application Cycle (cont.)



- Applicant Screening - March 1 – 15
- Reader Recruitment and Selection – February 15 – March 15
- First Reading – April 1 – 15
- Second Reading – May 1 – 2
- New Participants Announced – May 15



Thoughts for Potential Applicants

- Examine Current Uses of Technology in Your Curriculum
- Consider How Distance Education Relates to Your Mission
- Examine Your Business Plan
- Develop Clear Goals
- Analyze Where You Are
- Obtain Active Support from CEO
- Establish Team to Develop Application

Additional Thoughts for Consortia



- Obtain Agreement from CEO's of All Institutions
- Determine Which Institutions Are the Most Committed
- Develop Team of Personnel from Committed Schools

The Ideal Application - Characteristics



- Well Written
- Clear Description of Distance Education Program(s)
- Understanding of USDE Waiver Authority
- Specific Plan for Administration of Aid

The Ideal Application - Characteristics (cont.)



- Promise of Contributing to the Purposes of the Distance Education Demonstration Program
- Well formulated quantitative and qualitative goals

Significance in Comparison with Other Applications



- of Distance Education Program(s)
- of Issues Project Poses to Student Aid
- of the Opportunity for ED to Learn from Applicant's Participation



Be Prepared If You Are Selected

- To Submit the Required Data Collections
- To Attend One or More Participant Meetings per Year
- To Work in Partnership with ED Staff
- FOR A GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE!

Department of Education



Distance Education Demonstration Program

Email: OPEDistanceDemo@ed.gov

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/PPI/DistEd/>

Learning Anytime Anywhere Partnerships

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/FIPSE/LAAP>